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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 181473
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O 022217Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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FOR AMBASSADOR WELLS

FOLLOWING REPEAT COLOMBO 2662 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BANGKOK, ISLAMABAD, JAKARTA, NEW DELHI, SINGAPORE, USUN, VIENNA 01 AUG 77

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 2662

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, UNGA

SUBJ: PRE-32ND UNGA CONSULTATIONS: PROPOSED VISIT OF AMBASSADOR MELISSA WELLS AND COUNSELLOR RICHARD PETREE

REF: STATE 177836

1. REFTEL PROPOSES VISIT TO SRI LANKA FOR DISCUSSIONS THURSDAY/FRIDAY, AUGUST 18/19. WE DO HAVE CERTAIN SCHEDULING AND CONSULTATION PROBLEMS.

2. AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE WRIGGINS ARRIVES AUGUST 13, AND WILL PRESUMABLY PRESENT CREDENTIALS THE WEEK OF AUGUST 15, DATE AS YET NOW KNOWN. NEW SRI LANKA GOVERNMENT HAS JUST TAKEN OFFICE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND HAS BY NO MEANS SORTED OUT SUCH FOREIGN POLICY AND PERSONNEL QUESTIONS AS JUST WHO WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY IN MATTERS PERTINENT TO THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, WHETHER THIS FUNCTION MIGHT BE INSERTED INTO A FOREIGN MINISTRY JUST SEPARTED FOR FIRST TIME IN COUNTRY'S HISTORY FROM DEFENCE MINISTRY AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, WHO MIGHT BE ATTENDING 32ND UNGA, AND SO ON.

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3. IN PRINCIPLE, WE BELIEVE THE NEW GSL WOULD WELCOME SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT AND, IN EFFECT, EDUCATE ITSELF AS TO THE ISSUES IT FACES IN THE NEXT UNGA. AT THE VERY LEAST, WE WOULD EXPECT WARM AND FRIENDLY MEETINGS WITH THE NEW FOREIGN MINISTER (A.C.S. HAMEED), THE NEW DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER (A YOUNG, NEWLY ELECTED MP NAMED RANIL WICKREMASINGHE, AGED ABOUT 28 YEARS, WITHOUT PREVIOUS FOREIGN AFFAIRS EXPERIENCE), AND SENIOR CAREER FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS (SECRETARY W.T. JAYASINGHE AND DIRECTOR GENERAL ARTHUR BASNAYAKE).

4. EMBASSY WONDERS WHETHER IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO ADVANCE THE KARACHI-BANGKOK-JAKARTA PORTION OF THE ITINERARY, LEAVING COLOMBO TO BE COVERED AT THE END BY ROUND TRIP FROM SINGAPORE. FOR EXAMPLE, ON TUESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 23, THERE ARE TWO EARLY EVENING FLIGHTS (KLM 832 AND SQ 032A) FROM SINGAPORE TO COLOMBO, AND THERE IS A RETURN FLIGHT ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 25 (SQ 043A), LEAVING HERE AT 12:15 PM AND ALLOWING NEARLY 24 HOURS IN SINGAPORE BEFORE THE PAN AM FLIGHT ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 26. EMPLOYING THESE, ONE COULD SCHEDULE SUBSTANTIVE TALKS FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24.

5. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THIS SCHEDULE SHIFT IS IMPRACTICAL, SUGGEST WE GO AHEAD AND TRY GSL ON PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED AUGUST 18-19 DATES. CHARGE HAS FILED WRITTEN REQUEST (REQUIRED BY NEW GOVERNMENT FOR TIME BEING) FOR CALL ON NEW
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FOREIGN MINISTER, BUT HAS BEEN TOLD INFORMALLY IT MAY NOT OCCUR UNTIL AUGUST 5 OR 8. WE WILL RAISE THE MATTER AT THAT MEETING IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT SUGGESTIONS.
PERKINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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Subject: PRE-32ND UNGA CONSULTATIONS: PROPOSED VISIT OF AMBASSADOR MELISSA WELLS AND COUNSELLOR RICHARD PETREE
TAGS: PORG, US, UNGA, (WELLS, MELISSA), (PETREE, RICHARD)
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